



## Letter from the Director

Welcome to the first quarterly Digital Bridge newsletter! Last year was an incredibly exciting year for the Digital Bridge Technology Academy and this year promises more of the same. On April 1st, we celebrated the one year anniversary of our Grand Opening at YouthSource.

Since last April we have provided both hardware and software basic technology skills workshops, enrichment workshops, and technology fieldtrips to thirteen sites around Seattle. We have reached hundreds of youth in the Seattle area and have been successful in providing the technical tools that are so critical for their future.

Digital Bridge interns have also been active with service learning projects. Our youth have installed computer labs around the community at both Safe Futures Learning Center in West Seattle and the Youth Options Job Skills Center in Renton.

This quarter we are providing workshops at two new sites, Center for Career Alternatives and the Alder Academy. "Women in Technology," the theme of our upcoming technology fairs will provide youth with an opportunity to hear from successful women in technology, while gaining valuable technical skills through the workshops conducted during the fair.

As for the future, Digital Bridge youth will continue to have the opportunity to put their knowledge of hardware and their networking skills into practice through a number of service learning projects. Digital Bridge youth are very enthusiastic about this opportunity to give back to their community.

Stay tuned! The Digital Bridge program is just beginning to pick-up momentum. There is a lot more excitement just around the corner.

Sincerely,

*Dr. Melinda Giovengo  
Director, Digital Bridge  
Technology Academy*

## Digital Bridge Youth of the Quarter: Dio L.



Dio L. was named the Digital Bridge Youth for Spring Quarter 2004. Dio quickly completed both the Digital Bridge hardware and software basic skills workshops and soon began an internship with WorkSource Renton as a Computer Lab Assistant. WorkSource Operations Manager, Veronica Wade, describes her experience with Dio.

*WorkSource Renton had the pleasure of collaborating with Digital Bridge and YouthSource to offer Dio L. a work experience as the WorkSource Renton Computer Lab Assistant. Dio worked 20 hours a week and offered technical computer assistance to our job seekers in our 45-unit computer lab. This included everything from assisting customers in formatting resumes and navigating through career assessment software programs, to searching Internet job sites and applying for jobs on-line. Dio was extremely dependable, knowledgeable, and professional. Customers found him to be very approachable and soon began asking for him by name! Dio was a fantastic addition to our staff and is still sorely missed!*

## Upcoming Technology Fairs "Women in Technology"

Digital Bridge will present two technology fairs this quarter at Columbia City Learning Center (May 17-20) and Franklin High School (June 21-24).

Participating youth will complete both the software skills workshop and the hardware skills workshop during the fair.

"Women in Technology" is the featured theme. Speakers will include women engaged in successful technology careers. Our speakers will describe their paths to success, their company culture, and discuss a typical day at their respective positions. They will speak to their specific areas of expertise and facilitate a discussion on gender equality in the technology sector. Our guest speakers will conclude their workshops by conducting a brief technology project with the youth.

"Women in Technology" promises to be both informative and inspiring for Digital Bridge youth attending these exciting technology fairs.

## Digital Bridge Spring Workshop Schedule



Digital Bridge  
Technology Academy  
919 SW Grady Way  
(Suite 125)  
Renton, WA  
98055-2980  
phone: (206) 205-3510  
fax: (206) 296-2769  
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### Basic Hardware Skills Workshops:

- YouthSource: 4/20 to 4/22  
(9:00 to Noon)
- Learning Center North: 4/27 to 4/29  
(9:00 to Noon)
- New Start Learning Center: 5/4 to 5/6  
(9:00 to Noon)

### Basic Software Skills Workshops:

- Safe Futures: 4/13 to 4/15  
(1:00 to 4:00)
- Center for Career Alternatives: 4/20 to 4/22  
(9:00 to Noon)
- Kent Learning Center: 5/4 to 5/6  
(9:00 to Noon)
- Alder Academy: 6/1 to 6/3  
(9:00 to Noon)

### **Basic Hardware Skills**

- Identify hardware components
- Breakdown and re-build a PC
- Format a drive
- Install an operating system
- Install peripheral devices
- Perform basic computer troubleshooting and repair.

### **Basic Software Skills**

- PowerPoint
- Word
- Excel
- Using technology to gain employment
- Using the Internet effectively

## Digital Bridge Youth successfully completes Netdesk Internship

Digital Bridge youth, Tiffany M., recently completed an internship with Netdesk, a Microsoft Certified Learning Center. Tiffany started the Digital Bridge curriculum while at the South Seattle Community College Career Link Academy. By June of last year she had successfully completed both the Basic Software Skills and the Basic Hardware Skills classes. According to her instructor, Manuel Iturbe, "Tiffany demonstrated a high level of skill and interest while completing the curriculum. She particularly excelled with the basic hardware and operating systems portion of the hardware class." Due to her skill and aptitude for technology, Tiffany was encouraged to apply for an internship at Netdesk and was accepted for the position in September 2003. Her duties included: Basic LAN Administration, classroom set-up, classroom shutdown, and basic classroom maintenance. Tiffany enjoyed the Netdesk internship very much. As payment, Tiffany earned classroom training time. For every two hours she worked, she received an hour of Netdesk course time. The Netdesk internship was a great opportunity for Tiffany. Not only was she in a great employment situation, but she also benefited

### Thank You!!

Digital Bridge would like to thank the following organizations who donated computers, peripherals, and other equipment to the program over the past year:

- Leo Paper
- Seattle Workforce Development Council
- Northwest Kidney Association
- Seattle LGBT Community Center

from working in a professional environment. She was constantly in contact with and learning from highly skilled IT professionals. Also, she had the opportunity to take advanced, technical training courses that, with hard work and determination, may lead to a successful and rewarding Information Technology career. Tiffany finished the internship in December 2003 and is now pursuing her post-secondary education at South Seattle Community College.

